THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, Auguſt 3, 1801.

An Account of the Improvements of the Port of London, and more particularly of the intended Bridge, conſiſting of a ſingle Arch of 600 *Feet Span.*

NOTHING tends ſo much to promote the improvements of a ſtate, as the eſtabliſhing of an eaſy and uninterrupted communication through all its diſtricts; it has therefore always been a leading object with every well-wiſher of his country, to render the general intercourſe as perfect and convenient as poſſible: public roads and bridges have been the means chiefly employed to eſtabliſh this intercourſe: bridges, as requiring ſcientific and mechanical knowledge, and in many caſes, the utmoſt exertions of talents and ſkill, have frequently engaged the attention of perſons of eminence and learning.

It would be an amuſing taſk to trace the progreſs of this uſeful art from the rude efforts of the ſavage in his unaſſiſted ſtate, to the magnificent works of civilized nations, when ſcience, wealth, and increaſing population, have united to overcome difficulties conſidered before as unſurmountable.

When a work is to be performed, mankind at firſt make uſe of the materials which are neareſt at hand, and require the leaſt ſkill in preparation: timber and ſtone were therefore the materials with which bridges were firſt conſtructed; and thoſe edifices have been rendered more or leſs perfect, in proportion to the quality of the materials, the ſtate of the arts, and the degree of wealth and power, in the countries in which they were erected.

In our oldeſt bridges, it is evident, there has been much timidity, and only a ſmall portion of ſkill; in deep-water, the lower parts of the piers have been conſtructed of timber, and the maſonry begins to take place at the line of low-water;—the

arches are of narrow ſpan, and the maſonry employed in them is frequently compoſed partly of rubble, and partly of ſquared ſtones ;—in time means were deviſed (by uſing coffer-dams and caiſſoons) to place the maſonry as low, commonly lower, than the natural bed of the river; the arches were alſo formed of a bolder ſpan, and the maſonry was made much more perfect, being all of ſquared ſtone. In this manner, bridges have been conſtructed in Italy, France, and the Britiſh Iſles, which have juſtly been conſidered, not only as works of general utility, but of great magnificence.

In like manner timber-bridges have been gradually improved, from the rough trunk of a tree thrown acroſs a ſmall ſtream, to the bold and ingenious labours of the Swiſs carpenter at Schaffhauſen.

Bridges continued to be chiefly compoſed of timber or of ſtone, till of late years, on account of economy, in ſome caſes they have been built with bricks. Metals, not being found in a pure ſtate, require much labour and expence to make them ſubſervient to the purpoſes of man, and therefore in the uncultivated periods of ſociety were not applied to works of great magnitude; but the important improvements in chymical and mechanical knowledge have in a great degree removed thoſe difficulties, and rendered them not only the moſt powerful but the moſt uſeful means of man.

Iron being the moſt abundant, cheap, and generally uſeful of all metals, has, of late years, been applied in all works where great ſtrength was required in proportion to the weight of the material; hence cylinders, beams, and pumps for ſteam-engines, boats* and barges for canals and navigable rivers, beams† and pillars for large buildings, and bridges have been conſtructed of iron.

The firſt iron-bridge we know of, is over the river Severn, near Coalbrooke-Dale, in Shropſhire; it conſiſts of an arch 100 feet and 6 inches in the ſpan, and riſes 45 feet; there are five ribs, each caſt in two pieces, ſecured, where they join at the crown of the arch, by a caſt-iron key-plate, and connected together horizontally and vertically by caſt-iron braces, formed with dovetails and forelocks; the ribs are covered with caſt-iron plates, and the railing to the ſides is of iron, the total weight of iron is 378 ton and half; the project's being carried into execution

* Mr. John Wilkinſon has conſtructed boats and barges of iron, ſome of which are uſed on the river Severn, and the others upon the canals in Staffordſhire and Worceſterſhire.

† A large manufactury for ſpinning flax into thread, by machinery worked by a ſteam-engine, has been erected at Shrewſbury, by Mr. Bage, where there are four heights of floors and a roof, compoſed of brick arches which are ſupported by caſt-iron beams and pillars.

tion was chiefly owing to the genius and exertions of Mr. John Wilkinſon and Mr. Abraham Darley, iron-maſters, whoſe ſcientific knowledge and extenſive practice in all that regards the manufacture of iron have long been known to the public. The bridge was built by Mr. Abraham Darley, and the iron-work was caſt at Coalbrooke-Dale, in the year 1779. It was a bold effort; for in the firſt inſtance, in adopting a new material they exceed the ſpan of the centre arch of Blackfriars Bridge, which had been conſidered as a great exertion with ſtone.

The iron-work of this bridge has fully juſtified the idea of making uſe of that metal; for it is at this time as perfect as when it was firſt put up, except the cracking of ſome of the ſmall pieces, owing to the giving way of the abutments of ſtone, which it is to be regretted were not made ſufficiently ſtrong to oppoſe the great maſs of alluvial earth, of which the very high and ſteep adjoining banks are compoſed; for if theſe abutments had been fortunately built on the coal-meaſures, no ſuch ſlip could have taken place.

The ſecond iron-bridge was built over the ſame river, about two miles above the former one, at a place called Buildwas. It was erected at the expence of the county of Salop, agreeably to a plan and under the direction of Mr. Thelford, who is employed as ſurveyor of the public works of that county; it was alſo caſt at Coalbrooke-Dale, in 1795 and 1796. It conſiſts of one arch of 130 feet in ſpan, and riſes from the ſpringing to the ſoffit of the arch 27 feet; in this bridge, as it was neceſſary to keep the roadway as low as poſſible, the principal of the Schaffhauſen-bridge is in ſome degree adopted, for the outſide ribs are made to go up as high as the tops of the railing; they are connected with the ribs that bear the covering plates, by means of pieces of iron dovetailed in the form of king-poſts. The plates which form the covering over the lower-ribs, are caſt with deep flanches, are laid cloſe to each other, and form an arch of themſelves, ſo that altogether the bridge is compact and firm; the weight of iron, is 173 tons, 18 and a half hundred weight. Some ſmaller bridges, and an aqueduct at Longden (the firſt made of iron for a navigable canal), have alſo been made under Mr. Thelford's direction, in Shropſhire.

The next bridge, on a large ſcale, which was made of iron, was that over the River Wear, Monk-Wearmouth, in the county of Durham: the bridge is 236 feet in the ſpan, and the arch riſes only 34 feet; it is compoſed of very ſhort caſt-iron frames, which are connected together by bars of wrought iron, and hollow tubes with flanches and ſcrews; the ribs are covered with timber planking. The weight of caſt-iron uſed in this bridge is 205 tons, hammered irons 55 tons; this bridge was built under the direction and chiefly at the expence of Rowland Burden, Eſq. It was caſt at the manufactory of Meſſrs. Walker's,

of Rotherham, in Yorkſhire, and does much honour to the projector, and to the iron-maſters.

It was a conſiderable ſtep in the practice of bridge-building, being nearly double the ſpan of the arch of Buildwas, and conſiderably more than double that of the centre-arch of Blackfriars-Bridge. This will perhaps appear raſh to thoſe who have not had an opportunity of conſidering the qualities of iron, or who have not carefully compared its ſtrength with the ſtrength of the materials formerly uſed in conſtructing bridges. In great works, it is proper we ſhould proceed with caution, but the very principle of improvement muſt be wholly abandoned, if the demonſtrations of ſcience and the evidence of practical knowledge are to be diſregarded. To thoſe who will take the trouble of comparing the ſpecific gravity and the ſtrength of caſt-iron with thoſe of ſtone, it will not appear extraordinary, that by uſing that metal the practice of bridge-building may be changed, and the openings of arch-ways made to extend far beyond what has hitherto been attempted. The advantages to be derived from this practice are obvious, and become of great national importance in every country where the free navigation of rivers is intimately connected with its proſperity.

We have been led into the conſideration of this ſubject by the information we have received reſpecting the plans for rebuilding London Bridge. Underſtanding that there was a plan for conſtructing a bridge over the Thames, of a ſingle arch of caſt-iron, we have made particular enquiries, and have authority to ſay, that the following is a correct ſtatement of the hiſtory, principles, and plan of the deſign.

The manufactures, trade, and commerce of Great Britain having increaſed to an extent unparalleled in the hiſtory of nations, a great proportion of which is carried on through the metropolis by means of the fine river upon which it is ſituated, and the important centre it forms for the commerce of great part of the world; although this river forms a noble channel to admit the intercourſe of ſhips of the largeſt burthen within a few miles of the city, yet, from the increaſe of the number and ſize of the veſſels frequenting the port of London, great inconvenience and loſſes have been experienced in tranſacting the buſineſs connected with the ſhipping. The diſtance at which the large ſhips are obliged to lye, the confuſion of ſhipping in the river, the loſs of time in loading and diſcharging goods, the expence of lighterage, the frequency of thefts, the delays and vexation experienced by the merchant and manufacturer, have, at laſt, given riſe to propoſitions and plans to remedy thoſe evils. —On this great national ſubject, which embraces ſuch a variety of objects, opinions have, of courſe, been various, and ſome of them contradictory; this produced much diſcuſſion while the buſineſs remained with an open committee of the Houſe of Commons,

Commons, and, although much uſeful information was obtained, yet no project appeared to be finally agreed on and brought to maturity.

This led to the judicious meaſure of appointing a ſelect committee, conſiſting of members who were not concerned in any of the projects brought forward. This committee has made three moſt valuable reports to the Houſe of Commons, wherein every thing relative to the port of London, and the general commerce of the kingdom, as far as it is connected with this port, has been arranged with an accuracy and preciſion which will enable the legiſlature and the public to comprehend, at one view, a ſubject which requires information beyond the power of any individual to bring together.

In this great plan, they have judiciouſly divided the port of London into three parts;—the firſt is the docks in the Iſle of Dogs, which are calculated to accommodate the Weſt India trade, which uſually arriving in large fleets, contributed, in a peculiar degree, to the crowded and embarraſſed ſtate of the river, and which from the valuable nature of their cargoes, were very much expoſed to depredation; there is alſo in this part a canal, by means of which, thoſe ſhips that wiſh to come up the river may avoid the circuitous rout by Greenwich and Deptford.

The ſecond part is the docks in Wapping, which are intended for the accommodation of ſeveral great branches of our trade, which are ſubject to heavy duties; and the third is the improvement of the river, from the Tower upwards to Blackfriars-Bridge, and this part includes the re-building of London Bridge. By this means, colliers and coaſting-veſſels, and all veſſels of light burthen, are to be admitted to paſs the new London Bridge, and ſhip and diſcharge goods immediately at wharfs and warehouſes to be conſtructed along the banks of the river, and oppoſite to the centre of the city.

The two firſt parts of the plan have been ſanctioned by parliament, and have been undertaken by incorporated companies, excepting the canal, which is now executing under the direction of the city of London.

(To be concluded in our next)

Dr. Oliver's Account of Beau Naſh.

Related in Warner's Hiſtory of Bath.

Bath, February 13, 1761.

THIS morning died Richard Naſh, Eſq. aged eighty-eight. He was by birth a gentleman, an ancient Briton; a ſtudent of Jeſus College in Oxford; by profeſſion —— His natural genius

genius was too volatile for any. He tried the army and the law, but ſoon found his mind ſuperior to both. He was born to govern; nor was his dominion, like that of other legiſlators, over the ſervility of the vulgar, but over the pride of the noble and the opulent. His public character was great, as it was ſelf-built and ſelf-maintained; his private, amiable—as it was grateful, beneficent, and generous.

By the force of his genius he erected the city of Bath into a province of pleaſure; and became, by univerſal conſent, its legiſlator and ruler. He planned, improved, and regulated all the amuſements of the place; his fundamental law was that of good-breeding; hold ſacred decency and decorum, his conſtant maxim. Nobody, however, exalted by beauty, blood, titles, or riches, could be guilty of a breach of it unpuniſhed—the penalty, his diſapprobation, and public ſhame. To maintain the ſovereignty he had eſtabliſhed, he publiſhed rules of behaviour, which, from their propriety, acquired the force of laws; and which the higheſt never infringed, without immediately undergoing the public cenſure. He kept the men in order; moſt wiſely he prohibited the wearing ſwords in his dominions; by which means he prevented ſudden paſſion from cauſing the bitterneſs of unavailing repentance. In all quarrels he was choſen the umpire—and ſo juſt were his deciſions, that peace generally triumphed, crowned with the mutual thanks of both parties. He kept the ladies in good humour moſt effectually, by a nice obſervance to the rules of place and precedence; by ordaining ſcandal to be the infallible mark of a fooliſh head, and a malicious heart; always rendering more ſuſpicious the reputation of her who propagated it, than that of the perſon abuſed.

Of the young, the gay, the heedleſs fair, juſt launching into the dangerous ſea of pleaſure, he was ever, unſolicited, (ſometimes unregarded) the kind protector: humanely correcting even their miſtakes in dreſs, as well as improprieties in conduct; nay, often warning them, though at the hazard of his life, againſt the artful ſnares of deſigning men, or an improper acquaintance with women of doubtful characters. Thus did he eſtabliſh his government on pillars of honour and politeneſs, which could never be ſhaken; and maintained it for full half a century, with reputation, honour, and undiſputed authority, beloved, reſpected, and revered.

Of his private character, be it the firſt praiſe, that while, by his conduct, the higheſt ranks became his ſubjects, he himſelf became the ſervant of the poor and the diſtreſſed; whoſe cauſe he ever pleaded amongſt the rich, and enforced with all the eloquence of a good example: they were aſhamed not to relieve thoſe wants, to which they ſaw him adminiſter with ſo noble a heart, and ſo liberal a hand. Nor was his munificence confined to particulars, he being to all the public charities of this city a

liberal benefactor; not only by his own moſt generous ſubſcriptions, but by always aſſuming, in their behalf, the character of a ſturdy beggar; which he performed with ſuch an authoritative addreſs to all ranks, without diſtinction, that few of the worſt hearts had courage to refuſe, what their own inclinations would not have prompted them to beſtow. Of a noble public ſpirit and a warm grateful heart, the obeliſk in the Grove, and the beautiful needle in the Square, are magnificent teſtimonies. The one erected to preſerve the memory of a moſt intereſting event to his country—the reſtitution of health, by the healing waters of this place, to the illuſtrious Prince of Orange, who came hither in a moſt languiſhing condition; the other, a noble offering of thanks to the late Prince of Wales, and his royal conſort, for favours beſtowed, and honours by them conferred, on this city.

His long and peaceful reign, of abſolute power, was ſo tempered by his exceſſive good-nature, that no inſtance can be given either of his own cruelty, or of his ſuffering that of others to eſcape its proper reward. Example unprecedented amongſt abſolute monarchs—Reader, this monarch was a man, and had his foibles and his faults; which we would wiſh covered with the veil of good-nature, made of the ſame piece with his own: but truth forceth us unwillingly to confeſs, his paſſions were ſtrong: which, as they fired him to act ſtrenuouſly in good, hurried him to ſome exceſſes of evil. His fire, not uſed to be kept under by an early reſtraint, burſt out too often into flaming acts, without waiting for the cool approbation of his judgment. His generoſity was ſo great, that prudence often whiſpered him, in vain, that ſhe feared it would enter the neighbouring confines of profuſion; his charity ſo unbounded, that the ſevere might ſuſpect it ſometimes to be the offſpring of folly or oſtentation. With all theſe, be they foibles, follies, faults, or frailties, it will be difficult to point out, amongſt his contemporary kings of the whole earth, more than one, who hath fewer, or leſs pernicious to mankind.

His exiſtence (for life it ſcarcely might be called) was ſpun out to ſo great an age, that the man was ſunk, like many former heroes, in the weakneſs and infirmities of exhauſted nature; the unwilling tax all animals muſt pay for multiplicity of days. Over his cloſing ſcene charity long ſpread her all-covering mantle, and dropped the curtain, before the poor actor, though he had played his part, was permitted to quit the ſtage. Now may ſhe protect his memory! Every friend of Bath, every lover of decency, decorum, and good-breeding, muſt ſincerely deplore the loſs of ſo excellent a governor; and join in the moſt fervent wiſhes (would I could ſay, hopes) that there may ſoon be found a man able and worthy to ſucceed him.

Dr.

Dr. Harrington was the author of the following elegant epitaph, which is inscribed on his monumental tablet in the Abbey church:

Adeste, ô cives, adeste lugentes! Hic silent leges RICHARDI NASH, Armig. Nihil amplius imperantis qui diu et utilissime assumptus Bathoniæ elegantiæ arbiter. Eheu morti (ultimo designatori) haud indecori succubuit Anno. Dom. 1761. Æt. suæ 87. Beatus ille, qui sibi imperiosus!

If social virtues make remembrance dear,
Or manners pure on decent rule depend:
To his remains consign one grateful tear,
Of youth the guardian, and of all the friend.
Now sleeps dominion: here no bounty flows;
Nor more avails the festive scene to grace;
Beneath that hand which no discernment shews,
Untaught to honour, or distinguish place.

Extracts from Travels through North-America, by the Duke de la Rochefoucault Liancourt.

IN his second tour the Duke visited South-Carolina and Georgia; travelled through the province of Virginia to the Blue Mountains; and returned through Baltimore into Pennsylvania. He left Philadelphia in the end of March, 1796, in a vessel bound to Charleston; and in this passage he remarked the little respect shewn by the Americans to men in high public situations, some of his fellow passengers being of that description. Of Charleston he says "Every thing peculiar to the buildings of this place is formed to moderate the excessive heats; the windows are open, the doors pass through both sides of the house." Some of the opulent inhabitants prefer wooden houses, which they believe to be cooler than brick; and persons vie with one another, not who shall have the finest, but who shall have the coolest house.

"Here are few families who do not keep a coach or chaise. The ladies are never seen to walk on foot. However short the journey, the carriage must always be yoked. Even the men, too, make frequent use of their carriages. The expence of servants is likewise considerable; these, both male and female, are negro and mulatto slaves. An inhabitant of Carolina, though not very opulent, rarely has fewer than twenty of these in his stables, in his kitchen, and attendant upon his table. A child has a number of negro children to attend him, and comply with all his humours; so that the little white man learns, even before he can walk, to tyrannize over the blacks.

"The merchants of Charleston carry on an active trade: but

from the hour of four in the afternoon they rarely think of aught but pleaſure and amuſement. There are two gaming-houſes, both conſtantly full.—Both men and women here ſoon begin to loſe the bloom of youth and feel the infirmities of age. At thirty a woman appears old; you often ſee women with children at the breaſt, who yet have all the wrinkles and haggard looks of ſixty." At Charleſton, and in every part of the United States, great kindneſs has been ſhewn to the French emigrants.

By a computation made in 1790, the ſtate of South-Carolina contained 107,100 ſlaves, and 141,979 white people. The negroes are ſaid to commit fewer criminal offences, in proportion to their numbers, than the white people. Free negroes, from the age of ſixteen to fifty, pay a poll-tax of two dollars per annum to the ſtate.

Winter is the moſt pleaſing ſeaſon at Charleſton, but the inhabitants are ſubject to great and ſudden changes in the temperature. In 1751, December 1ſt, the mercury in Fahrenheit's thermometer fell from 70 to 24.

In manufactures and in ſcience the inhabitants of South-Carolina are repreſented as very indolent; but Charleſton poſſeſſes a library and a medical ſociety, and colleges are building.

M. de Liancourt has given a particular account of the methods of clearing and cultivating the rice-grounds.—The produce of the culture of rice, he ſays, is as variable as that of any other branch of agriculture; and fluctuates from two to four barrels per acre. The barrel weighs 625lbs.—Vegetation is very powerful in this country.

The bite of the rattleſnake is more dangerous here than in the northern provinces:—"The juice of plantago virginiana, Linn. or the root and branches of mahuba bruiſed, are the remedies moſt commonly applied. Either of theſe plants is ſufficient, but they are deemed more efficacious when they are applied jointly. A tobacco leaf ſteeped in rum, or a ſingle leaf of either of the above plants, takes off the pain and ſwelling. Cæſar, a negro, diſcovered this means in South-Carolina; he proved its efficacy to the Aſſembly of the States, in 1780, by cauſing a rattleſnake to bite him: and obtained for this arcanum his liberty, and a penſion of one hundred guineas a year. The rattleſnakes are as peaceful in Carolina as they are in the north; they never bite but on being touched."

Georgia is deſcribed by the author as the worſt regulated province in the Union; the natives being a "compound of all European countries, and of the other American provinces." "Agriculture is much the ſame as in South-Carolina, and almoſt all the land is good." The people have frequent diſputes with the Indian nations on the borders: among which are the Creeks, "who, it is ſaid, contrary to the general caſe, are increaſing in

numbers." The back ſettlers of Georgia are here repreſented as being equally ſavage with the Indian tribes.

"I have heard an anecdote of one of theſe Indians, which, I believe, will give a clear idea of their manner of thinking. The Creeks had occaſion to aſſemble ſome years ago concerning a treaty with the United States: one Talaſking, a famous warrior amongſt them, who had always declared himſelf a friend to the United States, oppoſed every act of hoſtility againſt them, and was conſequently well known, came to New York, the place of meeting, after the Aſſembly had already been opened. He there found, that one Malaſky, who had diſtinguiſhed himſelf by his inveteracy againſt the United States, and by the miſchiefs he had done them, was well treated, and even careſſed by the American commiſſioners. This circumſtance raiſed his indignation to ſuch a degree, that, although he himſelf was well treated, he left the Aſſembly after two days, and became an enemy to the States."

At Charleſton, though they have excellent materials for ſhip-building, it is ſo difficult to procure workmen, and their wages are ſo high, that the merchants are obliged to purchaſe ſhips of the northern ſtates.

M. de Liancourt went by ſea from Charleſton to Norfolk in Virginia; of which he gives a character by no means favourable. In the journey to Richmond, the capital of Virginia, the country, the houſes, and the cultivation, aſſume a better appearance.—Gaming, ſays the author, is the ruling paſſion of the Virginians. Gaming-tables are publicly kept at almoſt every town, though prohibited by laws; which are ſuffered to ſleep, becauſe the "legiſlators and magiſtrates are not among the leaſt aſſiduous in their attendance at theſe places." Another law exiſts which is more rigidly enforced, and which interdicts inoculation for the ſmall-pox without permiſſion from the juſtices, and from all the neighbours within the diſtance of two miles. "Any phyſician who ſhould preſume to inoculate without theſe precautions, would be puniſhed by a fine of ten thouſand dollars. Whoever is accidentally attacked by the ſmall-pox is carried to a lonely houſe in the middle of the woods, and there he receives medical aſſiſtance. If the village, the town, or diſtrict, catch the infection, theſe places are cut off from all communication with the reſt of the country, and are permitted to have recourſe to inoculation; otherwiſe it is never allowed." The Virginians aſſign many of the old popular reaſons for this law; but the author heard that the real motive was the unwillingneſs of the planters to inoculate their negroes.

Some manufactories are noticed by M. de Liancourt as being in a flouriſhing ſtate; but he remarks that of many undertakings of this nature, very few proſper.—The large capital generally required, the ſcarcity of good workmen, and the exorbitant wages demanded by them, are difficulties which few have been

able

able to ſurmount. Speculations in land are carried to an immenſe extent; which is not ſurpriſing, while there is ſo much waſte land, and while the population is ſo rapidly increaſing: but poſſeſſing ſuch a large proportion of unoccupied land, the eagerneſs with which the Americans of the United States have endeavoured, and yet endeavour, to deprive the Indians of their territory, is ſcarcely leſs a ſubject of wonder than of reproach.

The avidity of becoming rich is attributed by M. de Liancourt to the Americans of the United States, as their general characteriſtic; but in a country in which ſo many paths lead to affluence, with flattering proſpects of ſucceſs, an induſtrious people will naturally be eager in the purſuit.

GENERAL VIEW OF CONSTANTINOPLE.

[From the Travels of the celebrated Lechevalier.]

AT the eaſtern extremity of Europe a promontory of a triangular form advances towards Aſia; two of its ſides are waſhed by the ſea, and the third connects it with the Continent. Its ſurface is interſected by ſeven hills, from the top of which the view extends over the greater part of the Propontis; and the proſpect reaches as far as the ſummit of Mount Olympus in Bythynia. The waters of the Euxine, after paſſing the Boſphorus, divide themſelves into two branches at the point of this promontory. One branch takes the direction of the Propontis; and the other, penetrating into the interior of the continent of Europe, forms the moſt commodious part of the world.

It was there, according to Herodotus, Thucydides, Polybius, and Eutropius, that the navigator Byas, the ſon of Neptune, planted a colony from Argos and Megara, and founded the city of Byzantium, which, after the defeat of Xerxes, was fortified by Pauſanias, General of the Lacedemonians. It might, from its natural advantages alone, have aſpired to the metropolis of the world. The Byzantines were not unmindful of theſe advantages; and, maſters of the ſtraits of the Boſphorus and the Helleſpont, they threw them open to commerce, and cloſed them againſt the enemy. When the Romans had extended their conqueſts to the eaſt, they perceived that their capital was no longer ſituated in the centre of their poſſeſſions, and that they could not exerciſe with effect, over their enemies and their own generals, that active controul, ſo neceſſary to the ſecurity of their foreign poſſeſſions and their domeſtic tranquillity. It was for a long time a queſtion with Cæſar and Auguſtus, whether they ſhould transfer the ſeat of the empire towards the Helleſpont; but Conſtantine, at length ſenſible of the importance of the ſituation, made Byzantium the capital of the world.

When the city was rebuilt by that Emperor, the foreſts of the Euxine, the marbles of Greece, the cities of Aſia and Italy, even Rome herſelf, contributed to its embelliſhments. It was ſoon decorated with ſuperb temples, immenſe colonnades, ſplendid porticos, rich baths, and magnificent palaces, adorned by the chef-d'œuvres of a Phydias, a Liſippus, and a Praxiteles.

Thoſe monuments of ancient ſculpture and architecture were ſucceſſively replaced by others of a more modern taſte, and finally by thoſe of the Turks, leſs regular perhaps, but not leſs ſtriking and pictureſque, than the productions of the Romans and the Greeks.

The city of Conſtantinople is ſituated in 41 deg. 1 min. 27 ſec. N. lat. and 26 min. 35 ſec. long.—Relieved from the Propontis, it preſents itſelf in the form of a vaſt amphitheatre. The moment the navigator doubles the extremity of the promontory to enter the port, he leaves on his right Chalcedonis and Scutari, on the coaſt of Aſia, and diſcovers in front the canal of the Boſphorus, which has the appearance of a large river with its banks relieved and diverſified by pleaſant hills. But it is on his left that his eyes are delighted with the moſt faſcinating picture.

The vaſt baſon before him is covered with a foreſt of maſts. Ships from all countries lie there in ſafety from the moſt violent tempeſts. Innumerable light veſſels, and ſmall craft of various deſcriptions, ply in every direction, employed for the purpoſe of commerce and pleaſure.

Two hills, which complete this animated and intereſting ſight, extend to a conſiderable diſtance in the interior of the continent; and their declivities are covered with monuments, among which the ſpectator beholds intermixed the poplar and the cypreſs, while the eye is engaged with the ſight of moſques, with large cupolas ſurmounted with globes of gold. The ſpires, which poſſeſs great elevation, produce a grand effect. They recal to the mind thoſe triumphant columns which they have replaced, and which they equal at leaſt in elegance, if they do not vie with them in majeſty.

SUPPLIES IN ALEXANDRIA.

[According to the French Accounts.]

AS many perſons have teſtified ſurpriſe or incredulity reſpecting the aſſertion of General Menou, that Alexandria is victualled for *ſeveral years*, it is neceſſary to inform them, that before the Firſt Conſul took his departure from the flouriſhing colony of Egypt, he convened a grand council of the ſcavans, and invited them to invent the means of *preſerving* the ſtores which he had previouſly collected in the Delta, and which he deſtined

deſtined to ſupply that garriſon for ten years, if the cowardly Engliſh ſhould land before it.

Citizen Monge immediately undertook to convert twenty thouſand head of cattle into beef and mutton-mummy, according to the ancient method of the Alexandrians, and with the very compound remaining in the catacombs; theſe carcaſes were accordingly ſpiced and boxed up for the ſiege.—Citizen Piis, another philoſopher, offered to ſmoke ſixty-five millions of quintals of corn from the oil of *crocodiles*, an experiment which has moſt happily ſucceeded, as not a rat has eaten of it whoſe carcaſe has not inſtantly been found, and it agrees perfectly with the republican ſtomachs. Theſe ſtores, therefore, may be relied upon. And as the whole of the Lake Mareotis has been freſhened by an eaſy proceſs ſent out by the Inſtitute from Paris, the garriſon is abundantly ſupplied with fine water, with which General Hutchinſon inadvertently has inſulated the place.

Whatever apprehenſions were entertained from the plague, have been removed by Citizen Corriſart, who has been promoted to the rank of chief phyſician to the Conſul, for his admirable ſkill in applying and rendering practical the ſublime diſcovery of Mr. Godwin, the great Engliſh philoſopher. He propoſed, that the whole garriſon ſhould take an oath not to *conſent to die* under the plague, or under any preſſure or infirmity, during the ſpace of ten years; and as it is demonſtrated by that great man, as indeed it was by the pious Condorcet before him, that no man can die without a cowardly conſent and connivance with his diſeaſe, the republican troops were called out upon the parade; and inſtead of ſwearing, as they had often done, to die for their country, they now ſwore to live for it during ten years; and one regiment voted itſelf immortal by acclamation.

The Moniteur was not therefore guilty of the ſlighteſt exaggeration in pronouncing Alexandria impregnable, as ſoon as the banks of the Lake Madee were levelled by the indiſcretion of the enemy. A moſt excellent brewery has been ſet up from the corn, though ſome of the *petit maitres* and officers of the old regime affect to ſay it has a flavour of the crocodile oil; but the mummy ſoup is univerſally allowed to be excellent, and the aromatic anti-ſeptic quality of the compound has preſerved the troops from all attacks of the *dyſentery*.

MONGE, *Cadet*.

From the Lazaretto at Toulon, the 1ſt of Meſſidor, year 9.

Pour Copie conforme. F. CHAPPE.

Preſent State of the Trade of Portugal.

THE commerce of Portugal has very conſiderably increaſed ſince the beginning of this century. The reign of Joſeph

ſeph I. formed a new epoch, not only in the commerce of the kingdom, but in the general ſyſtem of its political economy. Since then the trade of the Engliſh with the Portugueſe has rapidly declined, owing partly to the conceſſions made by the latter to other nations, and partly to the improvements they have made in their own commerce and manufacture.

It appears, by the regiſters of the Cuſtom-houſe of Liſbon, that in the years 1774 and 1775, the commerce of the Engliſh with that capital alone exceeded double the aggregate commerce of all other nations. In the year 1785, the total value of imports from England amounted to 3,381,979,850 reis, and that of the exports to the ſame country to 1,564,319,760 reis, leaving a balance in favour of England of 1,817,660,090 reis, or 511,216l. 18s. ſterling. The value of goods imported from Ireland in the year 1784 was 366,734,435 reis, and that of goods exported to Ireland, 140,439,720 reis, leaving a balance in favour of Ireland of 226,294,715 reis, or 63,675l. 5s. 9d. ſterling.

This ſtatement differs very much from that of the Britiſh factory at Liſbon, which was laid before the Houſe of Commons in the year 1787.

The accounts of the Britiſh factory ſtate, that the goods imported from Great Britain and Ireland in the year 1785 amounted only to 960,000l. ſterling, and the exports to theſe nations of the produce of Portugal and its colonies, in the ſame year, to 728,000l. hence the balance againſt Portugal appears but 232,000l. whereas, according to the above, the balance in favour of Great Britain, independent of Ireland, is 511,216l. 18s.

The difference may be partly accounted for thus: the Portugueſe have included in their ſtatement a certain ſum for merchandize ſuppoſed to have been imported through illicit channels. The Britiſh factory, on the contrary, have noticed only the apparent imports, which certainly fall ſhort of the real ones, though probably not to the amount the Portugueſe calculate upon.

In the preſent reign a guard-boat has been appointed to reconnoitre every Britiſh packet, to prevent contraband traffic. Twenty-nine of theſe packets arrived at Liſbon in the year 1790. The total number of ſhips that arrived here from Great Britain and Ireland, in the ſame year, amounted to 319—Portugueſe ſhips, 252—from all other parts of Europe, 321—from America, 75.

According to the moſt authentic accounts, the Falmouth packets brought from Portugal to England, in the ſpace of 13 years (from 1759 to 1772) 9,319,938l. ſterling in bullion and ſpecie, without including diamonds and other precious ſtones, or the ſums of money remitted by merchant ſhips from the ports of Liſbon, Setuval, and Oporto; or the riches ſent collaterally to England, through the medium of Holland, and the ports of the

Mediterranean. In September, 1783, there arrived at Falmouth three packets with 100,000l. in ſpecie.

The Portugueſe farther alledge, that vaſt treaſures are brought from Brazil by Engliſh ſhips, which hover about the coaſts to receive diamonds, gold, ſilver, and ſpicery, ſecretly from the inhabitants.

In the year 1789, there arrived in the river Tagus Britiſh ſhips laden with Newfoundland fiſh, to the amount of 59,073 hundred weight.

From June, 1782, to Dec. 1784, the Engliſh landed at the city of Oporto 15,000 hundred weight of fiſh, independent of what they brought to Liſbon, Figueira, Aveira, Setuval, Lagos, Faro, the iſland of Madeira, and the Azores; the fiſh received by theſe different ports, one year with another, from Britiſh ſhips, is valued at 720,000,000 reis, or 202,500l. ſterling, calculated it at the wholeſale market price, that is 4000 reis, or 22s. 6d. per quintal.

The other principal merchandizes imported from England are woollens and hardware; of the former, Portugal received, in the year 1784, to the value of 2,058,776,150 reis.

The exports of Portugal are various:—wine, oil, ſpirits, ſalt, ſugar, cotton, cork, drugs, tobacco, ſweetmeats, and fruits, ſuch as oranges, lemons, figs, almonds, and nuts; for which, and all other commodities of the growth of the kingdom and of its colonies, England is certainly by far the beſt foreign market. The exportation of theſe articles, particularly the ſtaple, wine, has ſo increaſed of late years, whilſt, on the contrary, the conſumption of the ſtaple of England has decreaſed in Portugal, that it is a queſtion whether the trade between both nations at preſent be not at *par*.

Among the articles exported from Portugal to Brazil are the following: woollens, linens, ſtuffs, gold and ſilver lace, dried fiſh of the produce of the kingdom, hams, ſauſages, haggaſſes, pilchards, cheeſe, butter, biſcuits, cakes, wine, oil, vinegar, vermicelli, macaroni, bay-leaves, walnuts, peeled cheſnuts, dried plumbs, olives, onions, garlic, roſemary, and glaſs-ware of every kind manufactured at Marinha.

The imports from Brazil to Portugal are very numerous:—gold, ſilver, pearls, and precious ſtones of every kind, rice, wheat, mais, flour, ſtarch, and hair powder made of mandicoca (a root in the province of Brazil, reſembling a carrot, or parſnip, but larger), ſugar, molaſſes, ſweetmeats, honey, wax, ſilk, cocoa, coffee, nuts, ſpirits, whalebone, train-oil, woods of various kinds, for conſtruction, furniture, and ornament, coquilho (a kind of ſmall cocoa nut), glue, gum, fans made of feathers and of leaves, ſaltpetre, ſponges, the teeth of elephants and ſea-horſes; parrots and other birds, oſtrich-feathers, apes, the hides

of

of oxen, and the ſkins of different quadrupedes, as hares, rabbits, otters, tygers, ounces, gennets, goats, chamois, &c.

There are alſo a great varieiy of dying and medicinal plants imported from the colonies, beſides balſams and aromatics.

On HOSPITALITY *to* STRANGERS.

By the late Hon. DAINES BARRINGTON.

BY an ancient law of the Wiſigoths, merchant ſtrangers are not only to be well treated, but tried by their own laws. By the Saxon laws: "Quinetiam ſi maris acta tempeſtatibus ad domicilium aliquod illuſtre, ac pacis beneficio donatum, navis appulerit inimica nautæ ac refillorum omnes auguſta pace potiuntor." The plundering of ſhipwrecked goods is alſo made capital in the year 1221 by a law of Sicily: it is rather to our reproach, that the ſame offence has not been puniſhed with death in England, till the 26th year of the late king. There is a law in Lindenbrogue's collection, which does great honour to the ancient Bavarians, in protection of foreigners and ſtrangers: Si autem aliquis tam preſumtuoſus fuerit, ut peregrinis nocere voluerit xiv. ſol mulcteter. Deus nam dixit peregrinum et pauperem non contritalus de rebus ſuis. On the c ontrary, the ſtrangers had not the ſame protection from the Welch laws: "Tres ſunt homines quibus multis pro injuria eis illata non debetur; ſcilicet furioſus, alienigena, et lepioſus." It may be ſaid, to the honour of humanity, in every part of the globe where any part of civil policy or ſettled government is eſtabliſhed, that the making priſoners thoſe who were ſhipwrecked on their coaſts is peculiar to Japan. This regulation, barbarous as it is, ſeems to have ariſen from the total excluſion of foreigners ſince the expulſion of the Portugueſe, who attempted to alter the eſtabliſhed religion of the country, as their ports before this were open. The Cypriots made a law, indeed, that if any Jew ſhould be caſt on their coaſts, he ſhould be immediately knocked on the head; but this is ſaid by Dio Caſſius to have been cauſed by their having been guilty of great cruelties to the inhabitants of the iſland.

A REFLECTION.

THE vicious mind cannot be tranquil. The only genuine ſource of ſerenity is a virtuous conduct, and a conſciouſneſs of an endeavour to diſcharge conſcientiouſly the duties of life.

Anſwer, by J. B. Chivers, Schoolmaſter, of St. Auſtell, to John Smith's Queſtion, inſerted April 20.

PUT x^2 = the depth of the pit; then as $4 : 1'' :: x : x \div 4$ = the time of the ſtone's deſcent in ſeconds; and as $1142 : 1'' :: x^2 : x^2 \div 1142$ = the time of the aſcent of ſound; whence by queſtion $\frac{x}{4} + \frac{x^2}{1142} = 10''$. Now by completing the ſquare, &c. of this laſt equation, x comes out $= 35,56$ nearly, ſo that the depth of the pit is 1264.5136 feet $= 210.7522$ fathoms nearly.

☞ J. Jones, of the Radnorſhire militia, has alſo ſent a ſimilar anſwer to this queſtion.

B O N M O T.

THAT ſingular character, the late Robert Burns, it is well known, was addicted to the bottle. A phyſician, who attended him in his laſt illneſs, remonſtrating with him on this head, aſſured him, "the *coat* of his ſtomach was entirely gone." The merry bard declared, if that were the caſe, he would go on drinking to the end of the chapter; "for, if the *coat* was all gone, it was not worth while carrying about the *waiſtcoat*."

AN ANECDOTE.

WHEN the French, in ſtrong column, with the invincible legion at their head, advanced in the action of the 21ſt of March, 1801, in Egypt, and every man was at his poſt, Lieutenant Dugald Campbell, who had a diviſion of the artillery under his charge, deſired them to remember that they were not at preſent near their magazine at Woolwich, to have all their wants ſupplied; that one ſhot now in Egypt, well directed, was worth a thouſand any where elſe, and he therefore deſired their guns to be pointed deliberately, and with preciſion; "For," ſays he, "we muſt convince thoſe French lads that there are no invincibles in Egypt but Britiſh balls and Britiſh courage." This ſhort addreſs, from a youth not much above twenty years of age, ſpread like lightning through all ranks, and the artillery behaved moſt nobly. The gallant Campbell was wounded in the leg, but is ſince recovered.

Perhaps there never was more courage diſplayed, or better diſcipline obſerved, than in the action in which that gallant and ſkilful general, Sir Ralph Abercromby, fell. Few men have a better claim to the gratitude of their country.

Anſwer, by Juventus, to T. Jarvis's Charade, inſerted May 25.

HARK! at thoſe clanking chains! thoſe piercing ſhrieks!
That hollow groan the captive's fate beſpeaks:
Whoſe wiſtful eye the vaulted den ſurveys,
In TOLL-BOOTH doom'd to terminate his days.

*** Similar anſwers have been received from C. B. W. near Taunton; John Hill, J. Squance, H. Humphreys, and L. H. of Exeter; and G. Coulman, of Broadhempſton.

Anſwer, by L. H. of Exeter, to Telamon's Charade, inſerted May 25.

THE GUN-SMITH, with the niceſt ſkill and care,
When hoary winter comes doth guns repair.

*** We have received the like anſwer from J. Hill, J. Smith, and Henry Humphreys, of Exeter.

Anſwer, by J. Squance, of Exeter, to W. Harris's Charade, inſerted June 1.

THE SHAMROCK now doth hold a ſtation
In the arms of the united nation.

☞ We have received the like anſwer from L. H. J. Hill, and H. Humphries, of Exeter; Henricus, of Plymouth; and R. Baker, of Poole.

A CHARADE.

WHEN darkneſs reigns, and north winds blow,
And winter wraps the world in ſnow,
My firſt its friendly ray imparts,
To chaſe chill care, and cheer our hearts:
My next, by intricacies odd,
Secures the miſer's golden god:
My whole, alas! while one it ſaves,
Sends many to untimely graves.

A CHARADE, *by P. Gove, of Exeter.*

WITH awful and tremendous form
My firſt doth oft appear;
My ſecond views the threat'ning ſtorm,
Which fills the mind with fear:
My whole you'll find knows well his ſtation,
And is the pride of England's nation.

A REBUS, *by T. Webber, Jun. of Tiverton.*

INGENIOUS youths, an inſect ſhew;
A king of Ithaca explain;
A judge infernal bring to view;
And next the god that rules the main.
Laſtly a reptile muſt be told;
The initials if you join aright
A famous poet 'twill unfold
Whoſe matchleſs works afford delight.

POETRY.

WULFHARD *and* HESTRITHA.

A ROMANCE.

AN orphan in a lonely cot
Conceal'd a Britiſh warlike lord,
His caſtle ſeiz'd by warlike Danes,
His valiant follow'rs put to ſword.

When Alfred call'd his ſcatter'd troops
From dreary woods and rocks ſo wild
To his domains Lord Wulfhard flew,
And fair Heſtritha left with child.

Too many pangs 'twould force to tell,
By what vile arts, and vows untrue,
He wrought her to his wanton will,
And ſpoil'd the faireſt flow'r that grew.

Frantic, a peaceful home ſhe leaves,
And wanders o'er each mount and heath.
She ſpies afar Lord Wulfhard's tow'rs,
And cold and weary calls on death.

Theſe tow'rs Lord Wulfhurd had re-
gain'd;
On a firm rock they hold their ſeat;
Around them roar the northern winds,
Their feet the angry billows beat.

Sinking beneath a mother's pangs,
Juſt when ſhe reach'd the caſtle-gate,
A child is born amidſt the ſtorms
That ſeem to howl a dreadful fate.

"O! my poor babe, the rains beats cold,
" I'm dying on this wat'ry ſod:
" Falſe, cruel man! thy vows confirm
" Before the altar of thy God."

Her bitter groans alarm the guard;
Lord Wulfhard hears her pitcous
call;
He ſtarts to ſee a new-born child;
He leads her to the caſtle hall.

" We're now alone; this offer hear:
" Back to thy humble dwelling
" move;
" Take hence thy brat; accept this
" purſe;
" A richer damſel meets my love."

Heſtritha faints; her blood runs cold;
Around ſhe rolls her blood-ſhot
eyes;
She ſees a caſement open wide;
She hears the foaming breakers riſe.

" My child! to regions we'll aſpire
" Which cruel fathers never ſhare."
Then claſps her babe, and leaping thro'
The ſea entombs a wretched pair.

Three moons had follow'd this black
deed,
When an earl's daughter, then be-
troth'd
To this ambitious, haughty chief,
In pearls and gold comes gaily
cloth'd.

The marriage now is ſolemniz'd;
The gueſts the bridal feaſt ſet round;
Each warrior graſps the luſcious cup;
With mirth the Gothic roofs re-
ſound.

The minſtrels ſtrike their trembling
harps,
When louder notes the trumpet
breathes;
It calls to arms; the women ſcream;
Each chief his glitt'ring ſword un-
ſheathes.

The Danes' ſtrong number force the
gates;
Torrents of blood the caſtle ſtain;
Wulfhard, aſſail'd on ev'ry ſide,
Beholds his braveſt champions ſlain.

His ſword is ſhiver'd in the fight;
Around his head death's banner's
wave;
When, lo! that caſement meets his
view,
Where poor Heſtritha found a grave.

One hope remains; he hurries thro',
And falls amidſt the waves ſo white;
He ſtrives to reach the neighb'ring
ſhore;
He ſpies afar a quiv'ring light.

The blue flame hovers near a rock;
Then, horror-ſtruck, his looks are
wild;
A ſhiv'ring ghoſt, from troubled waves,
Lifts to its breaſt a mangled child.

The ſpirit mountain-billows treads;
Green-ſea-weed round its clothes
had ſpread;
Rent from pale cheeks and fraſtur'd
limbs,
The fiſh on ſea-cold fleſh had fed.

" Wulfhard,"

" Wulfhard," with hollow voice it cries,
" Thy offspring half devour'd be-
" hold;
" Come to my bed, Heftritha calls,
" My wat'ry couch lies deadly
" cold!"

The phantom, with an icy grafp,
Bears him full many a fathom deep:
" Come to my bed," again it cries;
And Wulfhard finks to endlefs fleep.

Manchefter, 1801. S. H. J.

SONG, *from the Irifh.*

THOU dear feducer of my heart!
Fond caufe of every ftruggling figh!
No more can I conceal love's fmart,
No more reftrain the ardent eye.
What, tho' this tongue did never move
To tell thee all its maftet's pain;
My eyes, my looks have fpoke my love,
My charmer! fhall they fpeak in vain?

My fond imagination warm,
Prefents thee at the noon-tide beam;
And fleep gives back thy angel form,
To clafp thee in the midnight dream.

Elvina, tho' no fplendid ftore,
I boaft a venal heart to move,
Yet, charmer! I am far from poor,
For I am more than rich in LOVE.

Pulfe of my beating heart! fhall all
My hopes of thee, and peace be fled?
Unheeded wilt thou hear my fall?
Unpitied wilt thou fee me dead?
I'll make a cradle of my breaft,
Thy image all its child fhall be;
My throbbing heart fhall rock to reft
Thofe cares which waftc thy life and me.

LINES

Addreffed to a beautiful young Lady, who had been a long Time abfent on the Continent.

THE morn was bright—the tempeft o'er,
The breeze blew lightly off the fhore,
When Caroline, her lily hand
Wav'd, as fhe left her native land.
Still, with a tearful gaze, I mark,
Far off, the beauty-freighted bark,
Where melting from my aching view,
She proudly rides the billows blue.

Now dead appears each well-known fcene,
The glaffy brook, the meadow green,
The daify lawn, the upland fwell,
The fhelt'ring cave, the moffy well;
The rofe hath loft her blufhing bloom,
The lily fhed her foft perfume;
And ev'ry fhrub that decks the grove,
But tells me of my abfent love.

Unheeded now the woodman's fong,
Echoes the ruffet wilds among;
Yon fhepherd, tenant of the plain,
Now fills for me his flute in vain;
Aye, heaven-ward may the fky-lark float,
And fcatter wide the mellow note;
The wren may pipe his merry lay,
Perch'd viewlefs on the leafy fpray.

Oft, gentle maid, my guidelefs feet
Pace round at eve thy fav'rite feat;
Where late, the lily-fcented gale
Would love to loiter, and inhale
The fweets, that with a wifhful care,
Thine infant hand had planted there;
But now the thiftle's armour'd head
Ufurps the vi'let's lowly bed.

Can mem'ry fail, my love, to trace
Yon lake's cloud-pictur'd, waveleſs face,
Where oft, along its willowy fhore,
For thee I've urg'd the plafhing oar?
Then was this arm with vigour ftrung;
No forrow o'er this forehead hung;
And then thy foft benignant fmile,
Could charm away the thought of toil.

Yon oak, whofe fummer-foliag'd arms,
Have fhelter'd oft thy fairy charms;
Where ftretch'd beneath his ample boughs,
Affection urg'd her pious vows;
Now in his fombre mantle drefs'd,
And robb'd of fpring's umbrageous veft,
Seems the partaker of my grief,
And fheds around the wither'd leaf.

Ah, Caroline! the foft'ring fpring
Shall o'er the oak her veſture fling;
Again fhall breathe her genial power,
Expand the leaf, and paint the flower;
The zephyr fhall again enclofe
The embryo petals of the rofe;
But will it waft thee, Caroline,
To fe's this heart, for ever thine?

Liverpool. T. ASHTON.

EPIGRAM.

FABULLUS locks his iron cheft with care;
Leaft any one fhould know that nothing's there.